

**October 15, 2009**

**WASHINGTON, DC** - U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri announced today that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded a grant worth \$20,000 to the Cortland Housing Assistance Council, Inc. (C.H.A.C.) to provide counseling services for prospective renters or homebuyers and current homeowners and renters on a variety of issues.

"We need to ensure that homeowners and renters have the information and resources necessary to make sound financial decisions in buying or renting a home," **Arcuri said**, "The C.H.A.C. provides a critical service in allowing prospective renters and buyers of all backgrounds and financial situations to get into homes they can afford and work towards financial stability if they have found themselves in trouble with a mortgage or rent payment. I am glad that we have an organization like the C.H.A.C. in Cortland County to provide these critical services and look forward to working with them in the future."

The C.H.A.C. was awarded this grant through HUD's Housing Counseling Program which is set up to provide a variety of home counseling services to homebuyers, homeowners, low- to moderate income renters and the homeless.

The C.H.A.C. provides counseling services in the areas below to Cortland County residents:

- Rental Delinquency
- Money Management
- Home Management
- Mortgage Default
- Mortgage Delinquency
- Energy Conservation
- Home Improvement
- Home Maintenance
- Displacement
- Home Buying
- Apartment Relocation
- Consumer Education
- Other Housing Alternatives

The C.H.A.C. has provided housing counseling services to the community since 1981. C.H.A.C's primary goal is to assist those in need of safe, decent, sanitary, affordable housing.

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